



Newsletter 6 - February 2025

YEAR GROUP TEACHING STAFF	YEAR GROUP PE DAYS
Year 3 - Miss Faulds (Poplar) and Miss Finn (Chestnut) <i>Mrs Freeland provides additional teaching support through a three way split in the morning</i>	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 4 - Mrs Thomson (Rowan) and Miss Brind (Willow)	Monday and Wednesday
Year 5 -Miss Daly (Hazel) and Miss Winzar (Maple)	Tuesday (swimming) and Friday
Year 6 - Miss Harding (Sycamore) and Mrs Walton (Redwood) <i>Mrs Lovisetto provides additional teaching support through a three way split in the morning</i>	Monday and Friday
Key dates for January The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change	
Monday 3rd February	Dance Live rehearsal
Tuesday 4th February	Y5 swimming
Friday 7th February	DANCE LIVE at Portsmouth Guildhall
Tuesday 11th February	Y5 swimming
Wednesday 12th February	Autism Hampshire meeting
Thursday 13th February	Last day of term - start of half term
Friday 14th February	INSET Day (no children to attend school)
Monday 17th - 21st February	HALF TERM

Monday 24th February	Return to school
Tuesday 25th February	Y5 swimming
Wednesday 26th February	Y5 children working with BP pupils and staff (PE)
Thursday 27th February	Year 6 SATS meeting

Upcoming dates for March *(Please note dates will be added to this list in the next newsletter)*

Tuesday 4th March	Y4 swimming
Wednesday 5th March	Y5 children working with BP pupils and staff (PE)
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day - children are invited to wear their PJs or onesies on this day (see below)
Tuesday 11th March	Y4 swimming
Wednesday 12th March	Y5 children working with BP pupils and staff (PE)
Tuesday 18th March	Y4 swimming
Wednesday 19th March	Y5 children working with BP pupils and staff (PE)
Tuesday 25th March	Y4 swimming
Wednesday 26th March	Y5 children working with BP pupils and staff (PE)
Friday 28th March	Y5 and 6: Mobile Planetarium from Wonderdome (in school)

Adult supervision

A reminder that children must be supervised on both the Junior and Infant school site. There should be no-one on the school site before 08.40, especially unsupervised pupils. After school, if you have children on the infant school site, your junior child should remain with you and not use the infant play equipment. This equipment is for the use of the infant pupils only.

After School Clubs

After school clubs are now well underway. These clubs will run until the end of the Spring Term. Therefore, your child will not need to reapply after half term. If your child has not yet signed up, but would like to join a club, please look on the bulletin boards where the number of available places are updated regularly. Please then speak to the office team who will assist you.

We would like to thank our staff who give up their own time to provide the extra curricular clubs for the pupils of King's Academy Rowner. Whilst we endeavour to ensure that your child has at least one of their choices, this might not always be possible due to the number of applicants for clubs. If your child is not successful, then they will be placed on a waiting list.

Monday	Dance Live (Y4, 5 & 6)	Football (Y3/4)	Arts and crafts (Y3, 4, 5 & 6)
Tuesday	Service Club (only open to children whose parents are in the Armed Forces) Young Carers (only open to those pupils that are invited) Drama Club (All year groups)		

Wednesday	Computing Club (Y3, 4 & 5) Makaton Choir (all year groups) Y6 Reading Booster (Only open to those that have been invited) Lego League
Thursday	Football (Y5/6) Sewing (Y4, 5 & 6) Film Club (all year groups) Lego Challenge Club (Y3 & 4)

All clubs finish at 16.00, with the exception of Dance Live which finishes at 16.15 (with a 16:30 finish on Monday 3rd February. Depending upon our result on the 7th February, will determine whether there are any further Dance Live sessions this academic year). Please ensure that your child is collected promptly.

If your child is taking part in Y3/4 football and Y5/6 football and it is not a PE day, they are welcome to wear **school PE uniform** on their club day.

Dance Live!

After months of rehearsals and preparation, our Dance Live Team will be taking place in their heat event at Portsmouth Guildhall on Friday 7th February. We wish them all the very best of luck, but most importantly to enjoy the fantastic opportunity that performing live in front of family and friends brings. Go Team Rowner!

We would also like to extend a big thank you to the Hermes Lodge, who very kindly donated £200 towards Dance Live!

Governor Vacancies

We are currently seeking enthusiastic and committed co-opted governors and a parent governor to join our friendly governing body here at King's Academy Rowner. Governors play a vital role in supporting the strategic leadership of the school, ensuring we continue to provide the very best education and opportunities for our children. This is a fantastic opportunity to make a difference in your local community, develop new skills, and be part of a team dedicated to the success and well-being of our school. We welcome individuals from all backgrounds who can bring fresh perspectives, skills, and enthusiasm to the role. If you know someone who would be interested, please:

- Visit our school website for more information about the role and how governors support our school.
- Speak to the school office if you have any questions or need further details.
- Contact our Chair of Governors, Sue McAdam, directly to express interest or learn more about how you can get involved. smcadam@governor.kgahampshire.uk

Please help us spread the word! If you know anyone who might be interested in becoming a governor, we'd be delighted if you could encourage them to get in touch. Thank you for supporting us as we look to strengthen and grow our governing body.

Healthy Snacks Please

We've noticed that too many children are reaching for crisps at breaktime rather than saving them for lunch. To help reinforce healthy habits and ensure children have a balanced intake throughout the day, please ensure that your child has healthy **snacks** for breaktime. Recommended snacks include:

- ✓ **Fruit and raw vegetables**
- ✓ **Low-sugar savoury options** like pretzels, rice cakes, or popcorn
- ✗ **Crisps and chocolate covered biscuit bars are better suited for lunchtime.**

Also, a reminder that we are a **nut-free school**. **Nuts and products that contain or may contain nuts (especially peanuts) are not permitted. Sweets are also not allowed for packed lunches.** Thank you for helping us promote healthy eating habits and keeping our school environment safe for all.

Hair Ties

As a school, we encourage the children who have long hair to tie it up wherever possible. It looks neat and tidy, helps to reduce any nit problems and helps keep children safe. For PE it is essential that children have their hair tied back. If your child, who has long hair, comes to school with their hair down, please ensure they have a hair tie to tie it back for their PE learning.

Internet Safety Day

Internet Safety Day complements our Online Safety approach and is something that we are passionate about teaching - empowering our pupils to manage their safety online also. Tuesday 11th February is Safer Internet Day, and to mark the day, we will be having a whole school assembly to remind our pupils why it is important to know how to keep themselves safe online. The online world is ever evolving, and can be a truly fantastic tool, when used safely. Pupils will also take part in short activities in their classrooms, designed to encourage conversations and share experiences. Whilst it is important to us to educate our pupils, we endeavour to empower our parents and carers to be 'streetwise' about online safety. If you would like some more information, including lots of tips and conversation starters, then please visit the UK Safer Internet [website](#). Please also make sure you are reading and digesting the monthly online safety newsletter that is emailed to you at the beginning of each month and is also on our noticeboards.

Moment Matter and Attendance Counts

You will be aware of the Government's national drive to improve school attendance and our updated policy reflects this. At Rowner, we fully support this initiative and are proud to say that our attendance is currently above the DfE target, at an impressive 96%. We are keen to maintain or improve this figure because every learning day counts! Improving school attendance is everyone's responsibility, and by working together, we can ensure that every child has the best possible opportunities to thrive.

Did you know?

- In the most recent data, only 43% of persistently absent (PA) children in KS2 achieved expected standards, compared with 84% of **regular attenders**.
- For KS4, only 37% of persistently absent children achieved grade 9–4 in English and maths GCSEs, compared with 83% of regular attenders.
- Regular attendance doesn't just improve academic outcomes—it also helps to build positive peer relationships, which are vital for mental health and wellbeing.

We are incredibly grateful to our families for valuing school and working with us.

SATS Parent Meeting

In May, all Year 6 pupils across England will sit their statutory SATs. These assessments are an important milestone in your child's education, reflecting the incredible hard work and progress they have made. To ensure you feel fully informed and equipped to support your child, we warmly invite all Year 6 parents to attend our **SATs Information Meeting** on **Thursday 27th February at 15.15 - 16.00**. This session will provide a clear overview of the SATs process, as well as practical strategies to help your child feel confident and prepared. We are **keen for every parent to attend**, just as you prioritised full attendance at parents' meetings. Your support makes a real difference in helping children achieve their best. Please make every effort to join us—we value your partnership in your child's success. Thank you for your continued support!

Socks: The Unsung Heroes of School Uniform

We know school uniform matters—it helps our children feel part of the school community, ready to learn, and looking smart. And for the most part, we're seeing fantastic compliance—thank you! But let's talk about socks. They may seem like a small detail, but they're an important part of getting uniform just right. Our policy is simple: **black or white socks only**. No patterns, no neon stripes, no jazzy designs—just classic black or white. This is also reflected in the uniform policies of our local secondary schools, and therefore your support in adhering to our uniform policy, will stand them in good stead as they transition through their educational journey and into the world of work. We appreciate the effort parents and carers put into making sure children are dressed correctly each day. So let's keep that consistency going right down to the toes! A uniform works best when it's followed in full, and that includes socks. Thank you for your support in keeping our school looking smart from head to... socks!

Swimming

During the spring and summer term, our swimming programme will take place for years 4, 5 and 6. Year 3 do not take part.

This will form part of the PE curriculum for the spring and summer term and will take place at Brune Park school. Swimming is part of the National Curriculum and therefore **all** children are expected to take part. Children need to have the appropriate swimwear, **not beachwear**, boy's trunks should be above the knee in length and girls must wear a one piece swimming costume. Goggles are permitted if your child would prefer to wear them. Long hair needs to be tied back and we encourage jewellery to be left at home – no earrings please on the days when they are swimming. We encourage children to wear swimming caps. Children will also need to bring a towel and waterproof bag to bring their kit into school. All swimming kit and school uniform need to be named.

For your information, year groups will take part in swimming at the following times:

Year 5: Tuesday 7th Jan, Tuesday 14th Jan, Tuesday 21st Jan, Tuesday 28th Jan, Tuesday 4th Feb, Tuesday 11th Feb and Tuesday 25th Feb

Year 4: Tuesday 4th March, Tuesday 11th March, Tuesday 18th March, Tuesday 25th March, Tuesday 1st April, Friday 25th April and Friday 2nd May (**please note the last two sessions are on a Friday**)

Year 6: Friday 9th May, Friday, 16th May, Friday 23rd May, Friday 6th June, Friday 13th June and Friday 20th June

Times Tables

Times Tables are really important. Memorising times tables makes it far quicker and easier for children to work out maths problems in their heads. Moving beyond using their fingers to work out answers, they'll be able to use their knowledge to quickly solve any multiplication questions. Please encourage your child to log into TTRS to practise their times tables weekly at least. This is particularly important for Year 3 and Year 4. Year 4 have a national assessment in June. The test requires them to answer each question in 4 seconds. TTRS is part of their weekly home learning tasks and can be found on Google Drive. It has been proven that those children who practise regularly feel more confident in maths lessons in general.

World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March and as always we are keen to encourage the children to be enthusiastic readers, book owners and book borrowers. We have lots of exciting activities planned. If children would like to come to school in their PJs or onesies on this day, then they are welcome to do so. Dressing up is not obligatory and school uniforms can be worn if your child does not wish to dress up. More information to follow.